

PAPER 2 WRITING (1 hour 30 minutes)

Part 1

Read the two texts below.

Write an essay summarising and evaluating the key points from both texts. Use your own words throughout as far as possible, and include your own ideas in your answers.

Write your answer in **240–280 words**.

A world without risk

Compared to what it used to be, the world has become a relatively safe place; life is no longer a dangerous adventure. Instead it is dull, dull, dull. Now that many of us no longer face real danger, we pretend it's there. We get our thrills from imagining the world is more dangerous than it is. Newspapers and news bulletins contribute to this, giving people the impression that even as they huddle in their armchairs, they are really up against raw and frightful threats.

Taking risks

We hear stories over and over again about the people who reach the end of their lives and regret the fact that they never took any risks, that they never challenged life and stepped out and tried something that was beyond their current existence. If people take care of every possible outcome of risk before they're willing even to take it, they turn the risk into a calculated venture, and try to control it, losing most of the potential benefit of taking the risk. Risk can make us more mature, wiser and stronger.

Write your **essay**.

Part 2

Write an answer to **one** of the questions **2–5** in this part. Write your answer in **280–320** words in an appropriate style.

- 2** A cultural magazine is running a series on the educational value of historical films. It has invited readers to send in reviews of films which taught them about a period of history. You decide to send in a review. Your review should briefly describe the film and explain in what ways it interested you in the historical period concerned.

Write your **review**.

- 3** A college magazine has asked you to contribute to a series of articles in which people talk about sports and leisure-time activities for new students. The article should say briefly which clubs/activities you considered and opted for and describe whether you think it is easy enough for new students to find clubs and activities which interest them.

Write your **article**.

- 4** You recently attended a training course which was exceptionally good. Now you have decided to write a letter directly to the course leader. Say why the course was exceptional, why it was particularly suitable for you and how you are benefiting from it now.

Write your **letter**.

- 5** Write an answer to **one** of the following two questions based on **one** of the titles below. Write **5(a)** or **5(b)** at the beginning of your answer.

Note: In the exam, the question on set texts will have two options – one on each of the set texts. You will be asked to choose one of these options.